

Docket No. 27735-10

PATENT



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee; Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 4, 2004.

Brandy Rogers

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kerry Stephen McClure et al.: Paper No.:

Serial No.: 10/663,272 : Group Art Unit: 3612

Filing Date: September 16, 2003 : Examiner:

For: **Cargo Protecting System For A Pickup Truck**

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

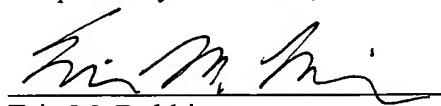
Dear Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability accompanying the Notice of Allowance dated October 25, 2004, a Statement of Reasons for Allowance was provided. The Examiner's Statement indicates that "the recitations of the specific features of the cargo protecting system for a pickup truck in claims 1 and 37 including especially the construction of the first chamber being defined by a first shell having first and second openings, the second chamber disposed substantially directly beneath the bed floor and adjacent to the second opening, the second chamber being separate from the first chamber and accessible from the first chamber through the second opening is not taught nor is fairly suggested by the prior art of record." The Examiner's Statement also indicates that "the recitations of the specific features of the cargo protecting system for a pickup truck in claim 18 including especially the construction of the securing mechanism and the opening mechanism both being disposed entirely below the second support surface when the closure member is in the first position is not taught nor is fairly suggested by the prior art of record." Applicants agree that the prior art fails to teach or

make obvious these claimed elements. However, Applicants wish to clarify that the art also fails to teach or make obvious the claimed cargo protecting systems for a pickup truck, as recited in independent claims 1, 18 and 37.

These Comments are submitted in order to clarify the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Entry is therefore believed to be in order and is respectfully requested. Please charge any fee required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 04-1133.

Respectfully submitted,



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*Brandy Hoofnagle*

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**TRANSMITTAL OF REPLACEMENT SHEET**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants herewith submit a Replacement Sheet for Figure 4 in which reference character "58" has been deleted in accordance with the Examiner's Amendment dated October 25, 2004. Entry is therefore believed to be in order and is respectfully requested. Please charge any fee required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 04-1133.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eric M. Robbins*

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